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cont fusion protein of a signal peptide and galactose oxidase, and an inducible promoter that regulates transcription of the sequence encoding said fusion protein, culturing said transformed yeast, inducing said promoter to cause yeast to produce said fusion protein, removing within the yeast said signal peptide from the galactose oxidase, and secreting the galactose oxidase from the yeast, wherein the galactose oxidase is in an inactive form when secreted from the yeast.

a2 4. (Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the signal peptide is an *Aspergillus niger* glucoamylase signal peptide.

a3 6. (Amended) A vector for transforming yeast comprising a nucleotide sequence encoding a fusion protein of a signal peptide and galactose oxidase, and a methanol-inducible promoter that regulates transcription of the sequence encoding said fusion protein.

a4 8. (Amended) The vector of claim 6 wherein the signal peptide is an *Aspergillus niger* glucoamylase signal peptide.

a5 10. (Amended) A nucleotide sequence encoding a fusion protein of a signal peptide and galactose oxidase, and a methanol-inducible promoter that regulates transcription of the sequence encoding said fusion protein.

11. (Amended) The nucleotide sequence of claim 10 wherein the signal peptide is an *Aspergillus niger* glucoamylase signal peptide.

Please add the following claims.

16. The method of claim 1 wherein the inactivity of the galactose oxidase is due to the presence of methanol in the medium in which the yeast is cultured.

17. The method of claim 1 wherein the temperature is reduced during the inducing relative to the temperature before inducing.

18. The method of claim 17 wherein the temperature during the induction is 25°C.

ab 19. The method of claim 2 wherein, during the treatment with the oxidant, the galactose oxidase consumes substrate-like contaminants.

20. The method of claim 19 wherein the treatment with the oxidant is for 12 hours.--

REMARKS

Applicants submit this Amendment in response to the Office Action of November 20, 2002.

The claims have been amended as follows. Claims 13 to 15 have been canceled, without prejudice, as being drawn to a non-elected invention. Claims 9 and 12 have also been canceled without prejudice. Claim 1 has been amended to call for secretion of galactose oxidase in an inactive form. Support for this amendment is found in the specification on page 9, lines 9-14. Claims 4, 8, and 11 have been amended to clarify the meaning of the previous term "gla".